

LOUISIANA TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA CONFERENCE ROOM

ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

JANUARY 19, 2005

RECORD OF AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Donald Gohmert, NRCS State Conservationist, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m., and welcomed the meeting participants. (See attendance list attached.) Each member introduced themselves to the committee. Gohmert commented on the Conservation Security Program (CSP). The main purpose of the meeting was to review the criteria and information for CSP.

Steve Carmichael, NRCS State Resource Conservationist, passed out copies of the last committee meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as recommended by the committee.

♦ CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM (CSP)

Ron Marcantel, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, gave an overview of the CSP program. CSP recognizes farmers for on-going high levels of environmental stewardship. Tier I eligibility only has to meet the soil and water conservation requirement for part of the farm. Tier II eligibility has to meet soil and water requirement for the entire farming operation and the farmer must be willing to do additional activities. Tier III eligibility is meeting the minimum quality criteria for all resource concerns for the entire farming operation. Approximately one-third of the payment is stewardship payment and two-thirds of the payment is enhancement payment.

The FY 2005 Mermentau Headwaters and Vermilion Watersheds Conservation Security Program (CSP) New Practice and Enhancement Cost-List was reviewed with the subcommittee.

The CSP Subcommittee recommends to the STAC under Pest Management (595), Specific Management Intensity Actions, Reduce pesticide applications by applying pesticides at low or ultra-low rates, add (consistent with state regulation), banding, or spot treatments.

TAC recommendation:

Accepted
DW
The consensus of the full TAC recommends to the State Conservationist to change the wording under Pest Management (595), Specific Management Intensity Actions, Reduce pesticide applications by applying pesticides labeled for low or ultra-low rates, banding, or spot treatments for \$5.00/Acre.

Under Pest Management (595), Install agrichemical containment and handling facilities to provide for the containment and isolation of spillage from on-farm agrichemical handling operations in order to minimize pollution of, or harm to the environment for \$5.00/Acre. The committee will need to look at a better method of payment.

The CSP Subcommittee recommends to the STAC under Atmospheric Resource Quality Management (370), Specific Management Intensity Actions, Eliminate sugar cane field burning to reduce smoke and particulate matter emission, and the dollar amount per acre should be increased.

TAC recommendation:

Accepted
DW
The consensus of the full TAC recommends to the State Conservationist under Atmospheric Resource Quality Management (370), Specific Management Intensity Actions, Eliminate sugar cane field burning to reduce smoke and particulate matter emission for \$5.00 Acre.

TAC recommendation:

Accepted
DW
The consensus of the full TAC recommends to the State Conservationist under Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644), combine all three enhancement activities and pay as much as possible but stay under the cap.

Next Meeting Date – No meeting date was set. Members will be notified when the date is scheduled.

3:15 p.m. – Meeting Adjourned

Donald W. Gohmert *1/28/05*
Chairman Date
Louisiana State Technical Advisory Committee

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ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

Donald Gohmert, USDA-NRCS
Steve Carmichael, USDA-NRCS
Ron Marcantel, USDA-NRCS
Fred Kopfler, USEPA/Gulf of Mexico Program
Steve Minvielle, LCFA
Jeff Parham, LDEQ
Johanna Pate, USDA-NRCS
John Pitre, USDA-NRCS
Richard Aycock, USDA-NRCS